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COUNTRY Austria REPORT NO. _____

TOPIC Soviet Troops in St. Poelten, Mauer-Gehling and Gaming

25X1X EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____ 25X1A

25X1A DATE OF CONTENT _____

25X1A DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 15 March 1950

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SOURCE _____

The following information on Soviet troops in St. Poelten (O 49/ 88) between 1 and 13 February 1950, Mauer-Gehling (O 49/Y 26) and Gaming (O 48/Y 45) was obtained for the same date.

1. St. Poelten:

a. Large, detached, four-story building at 37 Linzerstrasse: Kommandatura with a wooden shed, sheltering four or five passenger cars, in the garden on 8 February 1950.

A colonel was allegedly kommandatura chief.

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b. Kaserne block on Schiesstattring:

The entire area was off limits. The adjacent building, Stadtsaele, was used as a mess and club.

Many officers, including an infantry colonel and several majors and captains, were seen at the kasernes. (1)

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c. Large villa at 3 Maria Theresiastrasse:

Surrounded by a 2.5-meter board fence, with numerous telephone lines converging there.

Several infantry officers were seen.

House No 1 on the same street was used as HQ quarters.

Three or four passenger cars were stored in its garages.

d. Truppen spital on Muehlweg:

Used as Soviet military hospital, with the adjacent buildings serving as troop quarters.

e. Former mill on Wienerstrasse, eastern town exit:

ration supply depot.

f. Viehhofen castle east of Kremser Landstrasse north of the town:

Partially destroyed by bombing, used as ammunition storage depot according to local residents.

guard personnel were observed there (2).

g. Camp Gpratzern: About 50 percent occupied by troops.

Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets. [REDACTED]
were parked in the camp area.

h. Numerous private billets of Soviet personnel were on Josefstrasse, Jahnstrasse, Wernerstrasse, Handel Razettistrasse and on Schiesstattpromenade, St. Poelten.

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2. Mauer-gehling:

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Troops were still quartered in the northwestern section of the state insane asylum (in about one third of the asylum block on 1 February 1950. The asylum area was hidden from view by a high board fence. Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets. However, coming and going officers and ~~Er~~ primarily belonged to the infantry.

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An AT gun of about 76.2-mm caliber with long barrel, muzzle brake and rubber-tired disc-wheels was seen at the gate.

Troops practiced with small-caliber, short-barreled guns in the asylum area, this was observed from the train.

Several officers' billets were observed in Mauer. The troops stationed in Mauer-gehling were estimated at one battalion(4).

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3. Gaming:

The Carthusian monastery was occupied by an infantry company on 13 February 1950 (4). ~~ha~~ hauled ration supplies.

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